

### **REMARKS**

This Amendment, submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated August 16, 2006, is believed to be fully responsive to the points of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are pending. Claims 1, 11, 12 and 13 are amended above. Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The August 16, 2006 Office Action does not appear to address Claims 16 and 17. Reconsideration of the rejections in view of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is amended above to recite an inspection method that includes, *inter alia*, performing a first inspection on a product to obtain an inspection outcome and accepting or rejecting the product based on the inspection outcome. No new matter has been added, and support for the amendment can be found, for example, in numbered paragraph 33 and in Figures 4, 6, 7, 14 and 15.

Claims 11 and 13 are amended above to remove informalities. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed inspection of a product is a practical application and not a mere abstract idea and thus is a useful, concrete and tangible result. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-14 satisfy the requirements of 35 USC 101 and request that the rejection of Claims 1-15 under 35 USC 101 be withdrawn.

Regarding Claims 16 and 17, Applicants respectfully note that these two claims do not appear to have been addressed in the August 16, 2006 Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants assume that Claims 16 and 17 are in condition for allowance.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

**Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Amendment and any other fees applicable to this application to the Assignee's Deposit Account No. 07-0868.**

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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